

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICES

Examiner : RYCKMAN, MELISSA K.
Art Unit : 3773
Applicant(s) : Chanduszko *et al.*
Application No. : 10/731,547
Filing Date : Dec. 9, 2003
Confirmation No. : 4546
Title : SEPTAL CLOSURE DEVICES

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request for continued examination of the above-identified patent application and file this paper as a submission under 37 C.F.R. 1.114. This paper is responsive to the final office action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 13, 2009. Applicants further request an extension of time of three months. Accordingly, a response is now due on February 16, 2010, and this submission is, therefore, timely.

Accordingly, Applicants submit a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. 1.114 and the required \$405.00 small entity fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e). Applicants further submit a Petition for an Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) of three months and the required \$555.00 small entity extension fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(3). Applicants believe no additional fees are required for submission of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 6.